

Atty. Docket No. YO-999-567
(590.003)

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims:

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1. (Currently Amended) A self-describing peripheral device for being integrated with a computer operating system, said device comprising:

at least one hardware component resident in said device; and

at least one description subsystem resident in said device and associated with said at least one hardware component;

said at least one description subsystem being adapted to facilitate integration of said device with a computer operating system;

said at least one description subsystem comprising interface logic for interpreting commands received over an interface between said device and a computer operating system, wherein said interface logic is adapted to provide a reference to a network location where a recent version of a device driver is obtainable.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

non-volatile memory;

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said interface logic being adapted to control said non-volatile memory.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The device according to Claim 1, wherein said interface logic is adapted to facilitate identification of said device.

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5. **(Previously Presented)** The device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a device driver;

said interface logic being adapted to facilitate the provision of information to a computer operating system relating to the version of said device driver.--

6. **(Previously Presented)** The device according to Claim 1, wherein said interface logic is adapted to assist a computer operating system in obtaining a copy of a device driver for installation in said device.

7. **(Cancelled)**

8. **(Original)** The device according to Claim 7, wherein said interface logic is adapted to facilitate the updating of a network location at which a recent version of a device driver is obtainable.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The device according to Claim 1, wherein said interface logic is adapted to facilitate the updating of device driver information stored on said device.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

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a locally stored device driver, stored on said device;

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said interface logic being adapted to compare said locally stored device driver with a remotely stored device driver so as to determine which of said device drivers is of a newer version and to prompt usage of the newer version.

11. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a locally stored device driver, stored on said device;

said interface logic being adapted to prompt usage of said locally stored device driver if a remotely stored device driver is not accessible.

12. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a locally stored device driver, stored on said device;

said interface logic being adapted to compare said locally stored device driver with a remotely stored device driver at predetermined time intervals so as to determine which of said device drivers is of a newer version.

13. (Original) The device according to Claim 1, wherein said device comprises a printer.

14. (Original) The device according to Claim 1, wherein said device comprises a modem.

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15. (Original) The device according to Claim 1, wherein said device comprises a graphics card.

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16. (Original) The device according to Claim 1, wherein said device comprises a sound card.

17. (Original) The device according to Claim 1, wherein said device comprises a IDE disk controller.

18. (Original) The device according to Claim 1, wherein said device comprises a SCSI disk controller.

19. (Original) The device according to Claim 1, wherein said device comprises a network controller.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of integrating a self-describing peripheral device with a computer operating system, said method comprising:

providing at least one hardware component to be resident in said device;

providing at least one description subsystem to be resident in said device and associated with said at least one hardware component;

adapting said at least one description subsystem to facilitate integration of said device with a computer operating system, said at least one description subsystem comprising interface logic for interpreting commands received over an interface between said device and a computer operating system; and

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facilitating integration of said device with a computer operating system via said at
least one description subsystem, wherein said facilitating of integration comprises
providing a reference to a network location where a recent version of a device driver is
obtainable.

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21. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said facilitating of
integration comprises facilitating identification of said device.

22. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, further comprising:
providing a device driver associated with said device;
said facilitating of integration comprising facilitating the provision of information
to a computer operating system relating to the version of said device driver.

23. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said facilitating of
integration comprises assisting a computer operating system in obtaining a copy of a
device driver for installation in said device.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said facilitating of
integration comprises the updating of a network location at which a recent version of a
device driver is obtainable.

26. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said facilitating of
integration comprises facilitating the updating of device driver information stored on said

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device.

27. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, further comprising:

storing a device driver locally on said device;

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said facilitating of integration comprising comparing said locally stored device driver with a remotely stored device driver so as to determine which of said device drivers is of a newer version and to prompt usage of the newer version.

28. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, further comprising:

storing a device driver locally on said device;

said facilitating of integration comprising prompting usage of said locally stored device driver if a remotely stored device driver is not accessible.

29. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, further comprising:

storing a device driver locally on said device;

said facilitating of integration comprising comparing said locally stored device driver with a remotely stored device driver at predetermined time intervals so as to determine which of said device drivers is of a newer version.

30. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, further comprising:

storing a device driver locally on said device;

said facilitating of integration comprising comparing said locally stored device

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driver with a remotely stored device driver so as to determine which of said device drivers is of a newer version and querying a user to choose between versions.

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31. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for:

providing at least one hardware component to be resident in said device;

providing at least one description subsystem to be resident in said device and associated with said at least one hardware component;

adapting said at least one description subsystem to facilitate integration of said device with a computer operating system, said at least one description subsystem comprising interface logic for interpreting commands received over an interface between said device and a computer operating system; and

facilitating integration of said device with a computer operating system via said at least one description subsystem, wherein said facilitating of integration comprises providing a reference to a network location where a recent version of a device driver is obtainable.

32. (Cancelled)
